
KONGWAK AVENUE OF HONOUR



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image73

Location

KORUMBURRA-WONTHAGGI ROAD, KONGWAK, SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Municipality

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO50

Heritage Listing

South Gippsland Shire

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The Kongwak Avenue of Honour, planted on 15 August 1918, at Korumburra-Wonthaggi Road, Kongwak. The Kongwak Avenue of Honour comprises approximately 70 mature exotic trees planted on either side of the Korumburra-Wonthaggi Road. Originally extending from the Kongwak School and Foster Creek, it now extends to the west of the Creek beyond the Kongwak Store.

Unusually, the Avenue includes 6 different species, rather than one or two, which is generally typical of all other avenues in the Shire. The species are:

- Horse Chesnut (*Aesculus hippocastaneum*)
- Bunya Pine (*Araucaria bidwillii*)
- Lombardy Poplar (*Populus nigra*)
- Turkey Oak (*Quercus cerris*)
- Pin Oak (*Quercus palustris*)
- English Elm (*Ulmus procera*)

The *South Gippsland Shire Significant Tree Study* has identified two outstanding specimens:

- A Bunya Pine with a height of 16.24m, circumference of 3m and spread of 12m; and
- A Turkey Oak with a height of 17.46m, circumference of 3.35m and a spread of 12m

How is it significant?

The Kongwak Avenue of Honour is of local historic, social, aesthetic, and scientific (horticultural) significance to the district of Kongwak.

Why is it significant?

Historically and socially, the Avenue is important as the World War 1 memorial for Kongwak. One of a series established throughout South Gippsland, presumably in response to the initiative of the Victorian State Recruiting Committee, it demonstrates the significant impact of the war upon small rural communities. (Criterion A & G) Aesthetically, the Avenue is unique in the Shire for its mixed planting, which enhances the appearance and amenity of Kongwak and is an integral part of its identity. (Criterion D & E) Scientifically, the Bunya Pine and the Turkey Oak are outstanding examples of their type in terms of their age, condition and size. (Criterion D & E)

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|---------------------------|---|
| Heritage Study/Consultant | South Gippsland - South Gippsland Heritage Study, David Helms with Trevor Westmore, 2004; |
| Construction dates | 1918, 1918, 1918, |
| Other Names | -, |
| Hermes Number | 30651 |
| Property Number | |

Physical Description 1

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This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>